Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims of the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Previously Presented) An aqueous composition comprising: a polymer comprising as polymerized units, based on the total weight of said polymer:
 - a) from greater than 7.5 to less than 100 weight % of at least one ionic monomer, and
- b) from greater than 0 to less than 92.5 weight % of a nonionic surfactant monomer; wherein said polymer is formed by an aqueous free radical polymerization process in the presence of 0.01 to 1 weight %, based on the total weight of said polymer, of an organic compound selected from the group consisting of t-alkyl hydroperoxides, t-alkyl peroxides, t-alkyl peresters, and mixtures thereof, wherein said t-alkyl group has at least 5 carbon atoms.
- 2. (Original) The aqueous composition according to claim 1, wherein said aqueous free radical polymerization process comprises the steps of polymerizing 90 to 99.7 weight % of said monomers, based on the total weight of said polymer, and then polymerizing at least half of the remaining monomer in the presence of 0.01 to 0.5 weight % of said organic compound, based on the total weight of said polymer.
- 3. (Original) The aqueous composition according to claim 2 wherein said organic compound is present only after polymerization of 90 weight % of said monomers, based on the total weight of said polymer.
- 4. (Original) The aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein said polymer comprises from 25 to 65 weight % of at least one ionic monomer.
- 5 (Canceled).
- 6. (Previously Presented) An aqueous polymerization process for preparing an aqueous composition comprising a polymer, said polymer comprising as polymerized units, from greater than 25 to less than 100 weight % of at least one ionic monomer; and from greater than 0 to less than 92.5 weight % of a nonionic surfactant monomer, based on the total weight of said polymer;

comprising the step of:

polymerizing said monomers in an aqueous reaction medium by free radical polymerization in the presence of 0.01 to 1 weight %, based on the total weight of said polymer, of an organic compound selected from the group consisting of t-alkyl hydroperoxides, t-alkyl peroxides, t-alkyl peroxides, and mixtures thereof, wherein said t-alkyl group has at least 5 carbon atoms.

7. (Original) The process according to claim 6 comprising the step of polymerizing from 90 to 99.7 weight % of said monomers, based on the total weight of said polymer, and then the step of polymerizing at least half of the remaining monomer in the presence of

- 0.01 to 0.5 weight % of said organic compound, based on the total weight of said polymer.
- 8. (Original) The process according to claim 7 wherein said organic compound is present only after polymerization of 90 weight % of said monomers, based on the total weight of said polymer.
- 9. (Original) The process according to claim 6 wherein said polymer comprises from 25 to 65 weight % of at least one ionic monomer.
- 10 (Canceled).
- 11. (New) The aqueous composition according to claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises from 35 to 75 weight % of nonionic surfactant monomer.
- 12. (New) The aqueous composition according to claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises a weight average molecular weight of 1,000 to 100,000.
- 13. (New) The aqueous composition according to claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises a weight average molecular weight of 25,000 to 1,000,000.
- 14. (New) The aqueous composition according to claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises greater than 70 weight %, based on total weight of said polymer, copolymerized units derived from (meth)acrylic monomers.
- 15. (New) The aqueous composition according to claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises a swellable polymer that solubilizes upon neutralization.
- 16. (New) The process according to claim 6 wherein said polymer comprises from 35 to 75 weight % of nonionic surfactant monomer.
- 17. (New) The process according to claim 6 further comprising neutralizing said polymer to form a solubilized solution.